

REMARKS

The objections to the drawings has been addressed with the changes to the drawings and specification.

The objection to Claim 5 is not well taken and reconsideration is respectfully requested. Regardless how arguably similar in wording Claims 1 and 5 are, they cover different categories of inventions. Claim 1 being directed to a process and Claim 5 being directed to an apparatus for carrying out that process. From an infringement point of view, the direct infringers of each category of claim is likely to be different, and the measure of damages may also be differently quantifiable.

The rejection of Claims 1-8 as being anticipated by Boettinger et al. under 35 USC §102(e) is traversed, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Reference is made to Figs. 2 and 4 of the present application in which the output signal of the steering controller or transmission 5 is in each embodiment input to the braking control system 3. That is, the operation of the braking control system operates independence upon the steering control system to evaluate steering control system information.

In contrast, the Boettinger et al. patent describes steering and braking controllers 24, 25, respectively, operating independently of one another as can be seen in Fig. 2. The braking controller thus does not evaluate information from the steering controller in the Boettinger et al. process.

Serial No. 10/671,931
Amendment Dated: February 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1 and Fig. 3. The heading Prior Art has been added

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Serial No. 10/671,931
Amendment Dated: February 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action

Accordingly, early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080437.52299US).

Respectfully submitted,

February 1, 2005



James F. McKeown
Registration No. 25,406

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
JFM:lvb
358463